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Weather Forecast for Wednesday.

Washington, March 15.—For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Fair; warmer; southerly, shifting to westerly, wind.
For Missouri: Fair weather; southerly winds.
For Kansas: Fair weather; colder in northwest; westerly winds.
For Nebraska: Fair and colder; northwesterly winds.

WE HAVE THE PRICE.

It is gratifying to know that if war comes the country is in condition to meet the emergency without financial embarrassment. The government has all the money necessary for immediate needs. Secretary Gage is quoted as saying that \$75,000,000 could be taken from the treasury for the purchase of warships or war supplies and still leave money enough to defray the government's necessary running expenses and other demands. Besides, the gold reserve in the treasury amounts to about \$170,000,000, so that, leaving out the \$100,000,000 kept as a gold reserve for the redemption of public obligations, the present \$50,000,000 appropriation could easily be taken out in gold, if gold were required, and still leave a comfortable gold balance for further appropriations of the same nature. But if the war should assume such proportions as to exhaust our supply of ready money, there would be no difficulty in negotiating loans of any desired size on favorable terms. Our own capitalists would be glad to get a few hundred millions of bonds, and foreign investors would readily take hundreds of millions more.

REPRESENTATIVE PROSPERITY.

The general prosperity and substantial growth of Kansas City are strongly suggested in the reports of the postoffice. In some departments the amount of matter handled is 50 per cent greater than a year ago. The cash receipts have increased from an average of \$36,000 per month to \$52,000 per month—a gain of more than 44 per cent. This means that the city is getting bigger and more active. It is a most gratifying evidence of local prosperity. What is more, the growth is based upon legitimate conditions, and for this reason may be expected to continue. This is only one of many indications that Kansas City has entered upon the most important era in her history, the era that will result in making her really and truly great.

UP TO THEIR OLD TRICKS.

The gang politicians who have charge of the Democratic campaign continue to play an open game. They outlined their policy when they organized the campaign committee. The mere fact that the official head of the committee has been changed does not alter the fact that the same gang is running things. The time has not yet come to stuff ballot boxes. But there is always a way for those inclined to do disreputable and dishonest work to indulge themselves. The first effort in this direction by the gang was the energetic circulation of a report among the negro Republicans that such of them as had to give formal qualifications at the primaries would not need to register yesterday. This was designed to disfranchise a lot of Republican voters. The scheme was discovered by the alert Republican committee, whose chairman understands the gang that is opposing his ticket, and the erroneous report was corrected in time to save a good many votes for the Republican nominees.

Does anyone believe that politicians who would resort to such methods would hesitate to cheat the people at the polls? In fact, this scheme of disfranchisement is simply an evidence that the old gang into whose hands the fate of the Democratic ticket has been entrusted is true to its traditions; that it knows only one kind of politics, and that is the kind that depends for its success upon trickery and fraud. No one doubts that the city officers, once again turned over to these people, would again become mere instruments for plundering the people, protecting the gambling and lower social element and otherwise disgracing the municipality and its citizens.

SPAIN'S SYMPATHIZERS.

The various intimations that certain of the Continental powers of Europe would be in active sympathy with Spain in case of conflict with the United States should not be taken too seriously by the people of this country. European governments would doubtless prefer that war be averted. Commercial interests alone compel this preference. Besides, the inevitable outcome of such an encounter could not be gratifying to Spain's sister powers. The possibility of anything like active sympathy with the Spanish cause, however, is extremely remote. Austria would probably be more interested than any other nation in preventing war, because of the close relations of the royal families of the two countries. But Austria has so much domestic trouble on hand that she could ill afford to enlist as an active ally against any great power.

Germany has been jealous of the commercial ascendancy of the United States and of the inducements this country has offered to many of her sons and daughters whose allegiance she has lost through their American citizenship. Yet in spite of this prejudice and the seeming disposition of Emperor William to fight somebody, there would be a strong anti-war sentiment among the German people because of the fraternal bond between that country and our own, and popular sentiment has more to do with Germany to-day than ever before in the history of the empire.

Both Germany and Russia as well as France have Great Britain to reckon with in the Chinese occupation, and until that question is settled, Russia in particular would hesitate to put herself in an unfriendly attitude toward another great power, especially one so closely bound to Great Britain by racial ties.

The only European nation that would

be directly interested and benefited by helping Spain is France, to whose advantage it is to maintain friendly terms, if not form a close alliance, with the peninsula government. France finds it prudent to keep herself fortified against the interior governments, and it would be no insignificant advantage in case of another war in that direction to know that her Spanish frontier did not need protection.

But the desire to avert war, which is commendable even if influenced somewhat by selfish considerations, has doubtless given semi-official authority to the intimations that European sympathy would be with Spain as against America. These intimations are rather intended as conservators of peace than as advertisements of hostility.

SOCIAL SIDE OF THE DOG.

Bliss Carman has sung of "the love of a man for a man," but a sonnet on the love of a man for a dog would strike a more popular chord in Kansas City just now. This is one of the glories of Western civilization. The effete Orient kicks and cuffs the dog; the rising Occident makes him the honored friend of man, the pilot of the ruder through crowded streets, and the idol of sweet life.

There was more than his author suspected in the remark of a noted man that the more he knew of men the better he liked dogs, for the two have much in common. It is interesting to observe that the qualities that make dogs valuable to men are the outgrowth of the social habits of the animal in a wild state.

Cats are unusual, and so are all of the feline. They live on creatures smaller than themselves. They still hunt their game, and have no grip on the principle of co-operation. A cat is therefore selfish, and unloving. Not so the dog. Wild dogs hunt in packs, and kill animals much larger than themselves. They chase their game instead of still hunting. All this requires organization. They must have leaders, sentinels, and a reserve to guard the rendezvous of the pack.

These necessities cultivate social virtues; they make the dog obedient, trusty and altruistic. He considers the pack before himself, for, if it diminishes, his single strength and cunning cannot support him. Pointing, setting and many other canine peculiarities can be traced to social necessities of wild dogs. Tame dogs are but transplanted wild ones. The tame dog looks on his master's family as a pack, and his loyalty to it is simply that of the wild dog to his companions.

Has the dog bettered himself by coming into the society of human beings? We know not, but one thing is certain: He sticks to the social order, such as it is, and upholds it. It is better to be a dog, and a good one, than a social reformer of the style of certain men now more or less before the American public, and who, so far as this article is concerned, shall be nameless, out of respect to the subject matter.

A BORN LAWYER.

Activity in official circles at Washington is not confined to the army and navy departments. The supreme court is also in a ferment. Each of the nine justices is working like the nation's life were in jeopardy or his own salary at stake. Why? The answer is simple. The court has made a discovery. It has suddenly and violently become aware that there is such a person as John W. Leedy, and that said person is after it, shovel and tongs. Heretofore, through a long period of years, the supreme bench has loafed about Washington, much to Mr. Leedy's irritation, pretending to be the whole thing on legal knowledge and a bloated monopoly of honesty and justice, leaving its dominions long enough to drop in occasionally and render such decisions as the trusts and corporations had prepared for it. But that is ended. The court is now attending to business. It has had one dose of Leedy and it doesn't want any more. It knows that if it hands down decrees which are not legally sound Leedy will rip it to the back. If it denies justice to the great honest common people Leedy will blast it like a siren or siren, or something of that sort. Consequently its days are filled with toil and worry, and its nights with bad dreams and cold sweats.

Great poets, great painters and great musicians are born, not made. The same is true of great lawyers. The proof of this is Governor Leedy. He was born, not made. And he is a great lawyer. He never read law twenty consecutive minutes in his life, yet he knows more of it in a minute than the entire federal judiciary knows in a whole sitting, including sessions in chambers. He never conducted so much as a \$3 calf case before a justice of the peace, yet he can rise up in his tracks and expound law, constitutional and statutory, in a way that will make the entire Western hemisphere of jurisprudence look sick.

And Mr. Leedy's talent as a lawyer is only a small part of him. Think of that. He is equally great in other directions. In fact, the depth, width, length and thickness of this man is incalculable and cannot be fathomed until such time as destiny, in her inscrutable processes, shall see fit to develop and reveal him in all his richness. The richness is there all right.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

No member of the United States supreme court ever thinks of retiring now without first looking under the bed for Governor Leedy.

Strawberries are 31 per cent water. Those who find present prices too steep can have the excuse that water is not worth 25 cents a quart in a beer town.

In view of the general movement of troops to the seaboard, wouldn't it be well for the Third regiment to do its drilling a little nearer the river?

The Ohio State Journal, which ordinarily exhibits considerable state pride, makes the wholly unnecessary admission that Governor Leedy was originally from Ohio.

On account of the Klondike trade, Seattle is said to be forging ahead at such a prodigious rate that people are beginning to refer to it as the Kansas City of the Pacific slope.

If Spanish invaders attempt to effect a landing on the Texas coast they will get into serious trouble. Governor Culberson has just issued a vigorous quarantine proclamation.

Uncle Sam hasn't yet entered his dogs of war for the Kansas City bench show, and we shall have to give him his own time. It won't do to try to rush those growers.

Amid the mass of sensations and false alarms there are two facts that are really significant. The government is certainly making energetic preparations for war, and

the report of the Maine court of inquiry is being delayed until such preparations are well advanced.

"The American apple cannot be kept down," declares a Kansas contemporary. Well, not when it is in the form of hard cider and absorbed in too liberal quantities.

The country, however, should not indulge the hope that the senate intends to make a business of passing appropriation bills or bills of any sort, for that matter—without debate.

It probably hasn't escaped Mr. John Wannamaker's attention that the Hon. Matthew S. Quay appears to be getting the usual amount of refreshing slumber these pleasant nights.

Let us hope there is no truth in the report that the other European countries will help Spain. To trample all Europe would really take more time than we can spare from business. This is a very busy year with us.

The American people haven't wholly lost sight of the financial question. That is to say, they are glad Republican policies have provided the millions the government is spending in this emergency.

The Arizona Press Association has resolved to stand by President McKinley in any aggressive move he may decide to make. If this is what the president has been waiting for he can now proceed.

If Uncle Sam has purchased the Brazilian canoes, Amazonas and Abreus, he should lose no time in giving them good United States names. The Missouri and the Kansas would answer, provided they are really first-class vessels.

The United States supreme court has just decided an important case in favor of the state of Kansas and against a railway company. What has Governor Leedy to say to that? Rather queer conduct for a tool of the blood sucking corporation, isn't it?

"New York," says the Washington Post, "is not so hard up that it will have to draw on Kansas for a new schoolmaster." Well, New York might do worse. Kansas has some of the best schoolmasters, as well as some of the best schools, in the country, and has been drawn on with excellent results by other states. Kansas City, by the way, which is very close to Kansas geographically and otherwise, recently supplied New York with a high school principal, and reports indicate that he has good prospects of raising his school there to the level of the Kansas City high schools.

KANSAS TOPICS.

Speaking of the departure of an editorial brother for other fields, the Mound Ridge Journal tersely remarks: "Hal was a clever fellow with a pencil at times, but he didn't have any more judgment than a jackrabbit."

Kansas youth is gradually taking charge of the thought-molding business in Chicago. Ed S. Beck, son of M. M. Beck, editor of the Holton Recorder, has been promoted to the city editorship of the Chicago Record.

"Speaking about smooth men in their business," remarked a Kansas drummer, "one of the smoothest that has come under my observation is a fellow named Edgar. He let the story get out that while he was stooping over his flour bin a \$100 diamond ring had slipped off his finger into the flour. He appeared to be greatly embarrassed over the loss, got a notice in the local paper, but finally announced with a sigh that he would have to give it up; that the ring was in the flour somewhere, that he supposed it would turn up in a sack of flour, but he had no idea what one. Well, you ought to have seen the fellow. He was a guileless man had in the flour trade. For the next week he had to hire extra help to fill sacks out of that bin. One man who never bought a sack from him before came in and laid in a winter's supply. And the smooth merchant, who didn't make a mistake, winked his other eye."

"It is gittin'," said a Fort Scott jointist who had just been saluted with a sentence of a few hundred dollars in jail and a fine amounting to a thousand or so, "so that you can't depend on anybody any more. I voted and worked for Jake Sheppard for county attorney supposing he was one of us, and he has set us afire ever since."

"There was a touching scene in the United States courtroom last Saturday," says the Vineta Chieftain, "when the Lovell of Missouri was called into court to answer to a charge of perjury committed in the case in which her son was being tried for murder. The district attorney offered a motion to nolle the case against her. Judge Thomas said that he fully concurred in the motion to nolle. The judge spoke with much feeling; said that he had a mother once, and that a mother's love had never been gauged in this world, and that it was broader and deeper than anything else in all realms of humanity, and that in his court no mother would be convicted of the crime of perjury where her own child's life was in jeopardy. Judge Thomas' eyes grew misty and his voice broke as he spoke of the incident."

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George Higgins, who held the position of chief clerk in the office during the four years his brother Bill was secretary of the state, and who held a clerkship for two years under Billy Edwards, is running a Pop paper at Washington. This sounds queer, but it is true.

Governor Eskridge is ostensibly for Major Hood's candidacy, but the publication of that eulogy of Colburn in the Republican at this particular time will tend to make the major look a little more like the governor's affection.

Just at this time, when Atchison is pulling every string to get the Domo-Populist started, the starting of the story that 200 barrels of forty-two-year-old whiskey had been dug up out of the shifting sands of the Missouri shows that the fine Illinois hand of Jim Orr has not lost its smoothness.

Vic Murdoch, who had experience as baseball reporter on Chicago paper, sizes the gubernatorial situation this way: Funston got into the race for governor too late. Seaton first grabbed the ball bat, tossed it to Hession, who placed his hand on the ball. Then Billy Edwards put his mitt above Hession's; then Hood slammed his paw down into Edwards'; then Stanley put his fin down next to Hood's. Funston tried to squeeze his hand down so you could feel a knife over the top, but he couldn't do it. He will have to content himself with being right field.

"John Seaton's epistle to Lindberg," says Governor Eskridge, "recalls that last year's Populist serial, 'An Honest Swede Who Tells,' etc."

Nobody would think to look at the innocent countenance of the editor of the Burlington Republican that he is the sort of a man indicated by this couplet in his last issue:

Last night I held a little hand,
Ah, such a winsome thing!

It brought to me just fifty plunks—
Four aces and a king.

Dickinson county, like all the rest of the state, is full of Cuban sympathizers, but the first citizen to really come to the front and put up his dough to relieve the distress in the island is A. J. Cowles, who has forwarded \$10 to the relief fund.

"John J. Ingalls announces," says the Lawrence Journal, "that he has discovered down in Georgia a man by the name of Ed. J. Ingalls, who has been connected with the disappeared years ago. Mr. Ingalls seems to have acquired a fad for hunting for members of the Leland family—and finding them."

When it was indicated last week to the people of McPherson county that supplies for the Cuban sufferers were needed, it took just about an hour to rustle up a cartload of flour and get it ready to start.

The Winfield Courier says: "W. B. Denton has suggested to Colonel Edward Jaquins the matter of giving a descriptive lecture of his travels in the Northwest, especially of what he did not know about the Northwest. It is probable he will lecture at the court house some evening soon." That may be interesting, but if Colonel Ed will consent to give a lecture descriptive of his experience during these legislative sessions, that will be something really going miles to hear.

War hasn't been actually declared, but the war talk is already having its effect on the young and rising generation. An Atchison lad contracted the war fever Saturday and purchased a toy cannon preparatory to entering any emergency that might arise. He concluded to experiment with the weapon before entering a conflict, to be sure that it was in good working order. Accordingly took a bottle of powder and proceeded to load the terrible gun. In some manner a lighted match came in contact with the powder and there was an explosion. A piece of glass struck his eye, and he was badly wounded.

William H. Shelley was called to dress. Seven stitches had to be taken therein. His face was otherwise cut and bruised.

The death of "Pop" Harrison, the aged janitor of the Salina court house, the other day, illustrates that in this Western country at least wealth and station are not a guarantee for the respect of the community. "Pop" Harrison, as he was affectionately known by everybody in the community, was 83 years old. He had been a sailor and had served in the Bendigo war, and he was receiving a pension. He had been either a steadfast Whig or Republican all his life, and took great pride in the fact that he had voted for both William H. and his grandson, Benjamin Harrison.

"Speaking about smart animals," said the real estate agent, "I go on record as saying that there is no animal that can hold a candle to the coyote for smoothness. When I first went out to Western Kansas I had an ambition to kill enough coyotes to feed the army, but I haven't been able to do it. I tramped all over that country with a gun, but I never could get nearer than within a mile of a coyote. I used to drive out in my buggy and look for them, but I didn't make any difference; not a coyote ever got near enough so that he could be reached with anything short of a long range cannon. One day I started out in a hurry and forgot my gun. I hadn't gone a mile from town until I ran onto a group of four coyotes. The critters didn't even take the trouble to lope off out of sight. They just walked out two or three rods and looked at me and yawned. It made me hot to see their infernal impudence and I made a dive as if I were going to get in their teeth. They just sat up there and actually grinned. They said just as plain as if they had used the word: 'You needn't try to run any more on us, we are strictly out on our job.' How they knew that I hadn't that gun I don't know, but I have always had great respect for the sense of a coyote ever since."

MISSOURI TOPICS.

The big Burlington repair shops there are a bonanza for Hannibal. The payroll last month amounted to \$55,000.

If Lamar voters like Goodrum as well as the male citizens of the average community like him, they will have to wait a while in Barton county's capital ought to amount to a life lease.

The old Westminster Presbyterian church in St. Joe, one of the town's landmarks, is being demolished to make room for a \$30,000 apartment house, which the present owner of the site is preparing to erect.

One of the principal trotting and pacing circuits in this part of the West this season will include Moberly, Columbia, Mexico, Bonville, Nevada, Springfield and Fort Scott.

A well-caked walk to the local opera house, with \$50 offered in prizes and "Doc" Brown, of Kansas City, as the star attraction, is slated for Friday night in Chillicothe as one of the really great amusement events of the season.

A. W. Flora, who now lives at Buffalo, Mo., but some years ago represented Notaway county in the legislature, has been elected to the legislature. He is being strongly backed as a candidate for state senator by his district.

"When Lonnie Stephens can command the serious attention of a considerable number of people with his 'theories' about the Maine disaster it is time to draw the line on the whole theory business," disgustedly remarks the Marvyn Tribune.

"The numerous big sales of mining properties made of late in this district, wherein the interest of the state is estimated at \$30,000, are causing the calamity howling officeholders to wonder what Republican prosperity is going to do next," declares the Joplin News.

The \$100,000 gold bond mortgage given by the Rock Island railroad to a New York trust company, which has been filed in even with a just cause, is a voluminous document of 126 pages and nets each recorder who handles it a neat fee.

The good old times when they pick it off the shade trees haven't yet returned, but that money is plentiful in Nowaday county is indicated by the advertisement of the Skidmore man that he has \$3,000,000 which he is anxious to loan at almost any old rate of interest.

Editor Pool, of the Centralia Courier, gives as the reason for his refusal to register for the legislature the fact that he is not willing to be killed and misrepresented by a pack of liars that camp on the trail of every man who becomes a candidate for office in Boone county."

Mrs. Zerelda Samuel, the Kearney Clipper says, has no idea of leaving her country home and going to St. Louis to live with her son, Frank James. She could never be satisfied elsewhere, and she will probably spend the rest of her life on the old home place east of Kearney.

Suit has been begun by Clara J. Leonard, widow of Frank Leonard, editor of the Chillicothe Constitution, against the Aetna Life Insurance Company to compel the payment of a \$3,000 policy on his life, which Mr. Leonard is said to have secured some six months previous to his death.

The Hon. Solomon Umphalbaugh, the present incumbent, has intimated his willingness to be elected to the judges' bench in Livingston county another term, and it isn't believed that there is another resident of the jurisdiction who has a name with which he could successfully go against the Hon. Sol.

Colonel Demuth, who has recently resigned from the Seattle and other points in that section, advises all prospective goldseekers to stay at home. He says:

The newspaper correspondents at Seattle would be drummed out of the country if by any chance they should report conditions as they really exist.

The trestle across Brush creek, near Vista, on the Blair line extension, will be the longest and highest structure of the kind in this section of country. It will be elevated sixty-three feet above the highest point and has a length of 600 feet. This altitude was necessary to gain the elevation desired for an overhead crossing of the Memphis tracks, a short distance from the creek. Rannels & Sewall have the contract and expect to begin driving piles for the foundation section in a short time.

In issuing an order to the officers and men of the national guard of Missouri not to talk to newspaper men, Adjutant General Bell has foisted upon the soldiery of the state a species of "big game" which is far forward making the Missouri militia less popular than it already is, says the St. Louis Chronicle. This new law is one of the most objectionable features of the regular army, which is being transplanted to the national guard. It will not be appreciated in Missouri.

The mules at No. 1 mine, of the Rich Hill Coal Mining Company, are to be given a rare treat, the Review says. On tomorrow morning they will be brought to the surface, where they will remain several days. The mine is to be kept open for the period of time in order to allow the mules to be the large fawn and milks. There are more than thirty mules in the mines, and some of them have not seen daylight for many months. In fact, one of the number has not been out of the pit since the mine was opened, more than five years ago. Another one has not seen the sunshine for two years.

In a recent evening hour the miners tell us, for the animals get their eyesight, after being brought to the surface. It will no doubt seem to them like going into a new world.

A Chillicothe man made a bad break the other day, one that he will not soon forget, the Constitution says. His wife had left for a visit, and he was keeping bachelor's hall. On his way home he met a friend and invited him to the house, promising him a first-class drink. The inviter is noted for his excellent taste in liquor, and the friend readily accepted the invitation. The host poured out a glass of drink taken and the friend departed. Shortly afterwards the host discovered that he had been "touched" for \$45. He hurried downtown and notified the police, who hunted for the man who had taken the drink at the house. He was searched, but no money was found. The police ran down clue after clue, but could fasten the crime on no one. The host, disgusted, tired and "sore" at himself, decided to get his own back. While there he made another search of the house, and there in his Sunday coat pocket found the money. He again hurried downtown and told the police of his find. He also hunted up the man whom he had suspected, and apologies were profuse and many. When last seen they were "splitting a cold bottle."

An antique earthen vessel of Spanish design, half filled with gold dust, dug with other valuables from the ground in an uninhabited spot in the Indian Territory, was lately discovered by a prospector. It was an old Indian tradition to the effect that one of the most cruel battles ever fought on American soil was an engagement between the Spaniards and the Indians there. The Spaniards had been recorded in history. T. B. Powell, of Webster's Falls, while walking in his yard, stumbled on what he found to be a peculiarly shaped earthen vessel. He dug it up and found it contained about fifty dollars' worth of American coins, some of which dated as far back as 1726. His curiosity having been excited, he excavated in the spot and found a much larger vessel of the same shape, containing what he estimated to be more than a gallon of pure gold dust. It has long been an Indian tradition that in the last part of the nineteenth century, or the first part of the eighteenth century, the native Indians of the territory, the Spaniards from the South, fought an awful battle in the territory, and that the Indians were so badly routed that they retreated with great loss of life, and never returned to retrieve the valuable jewelry and gold they had buried near the battlefield just before the engagement to prevent the Spaniards from obtaining it in case of their success. In the past few years the territory has been searched for the gold, but no trace of it has been found. The Spaniards have gained credence in that section.

Comparative Resources.

While it is always impolitic to underestimate the power of a possible enemy, it is not advisable to go far in the opposite direction. The closest possible approximation to actual facts as to the capacity of Spain to contend with the United States will be found in the fact that Spain is a nation that is not looking for a chance to crush a weak power by its superior strength, but if circumstances beyond control compel it to engage in war with Spain it will have an adversary magnificently equipped in pride, not lacking in courage, but very feebly endowed with indispensable requisites for a conflict with our republic.

Spain has a population of 30,000,000 and an army that has been recruited by conscription until scarcely any able-bodied adult males are left. The insurrections in Cuba and the Philippines have been fearfully exhaustive of life. The navy of Spain is inferior to ours. Her debt of a billion and a quarter of dollars is five times as great per capita as ours, while her ability to pay interest on the debt is inferior to ours. Spain is insignificant as compared with the resources of our country.

That a country in such a condition will compel this republic to go to war with her is not to be trusted to the logic of the situation. Such compulsion can come only when Spain makes the continuance of peace incompatible with the maintenance of her honor as a nation. And if it should come, a great event will have just caused our victory.

The great decision of last week is the declaration that the Nebraska maximum freight rates law is unconstitutional and void whenever it operates to compel railroads to do business at a loss. That is, the supreme court has announced that in every state in the Union private property, no matter how plausible the pretext for the assault upon it, is secure from confiscation; that every person, corporate, individual, rich or poor, is entitled to the equal protection of the laws and may not be deprived of his right to equality.

Of course, Governor Holcomb, of Nebraska, and his edifying followers, are raving against the decision. They cannot or will not see that, as the World pointed out last April, the fact that it is the rich railroads that were attacked by the law is an incident, and that the real issue is the right of security to private property of all kinds. For if it be granted that a legislature has

Security.

The supreme court of the United States has just rendered a decision of great importance in its history. It is a decision that ranks in far-reaching consequences with the famous Dartmouth college decision, which, while apparently affecting a small amount of property belonging to a small college, in reality laid the firm hand of federal protection on every official of every state and made public contracts of all kinds and in all parts of all states inviolable.

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the right to make railroads the subject of oppressive class legislation, then upon this precedent would be based future attacks upon any and all the products of industry and thrift.

If Governor Holcomb and his fellow ravers will read Jeremy Bentham's remarks on "Security" in his "Principles of the Civil Code" they will be instructed at least, and may perhaps come to be so glib in their attacks upon the supreme court for upholding the great fundamental, vital principle of security.

"Security," says Bentham, "is the distinctive mark of civilization. It is the work of the laws. Without law there is no security; consequently no abundance, nor even certain subsistence. And the only equality which can exist in such a condition is the equality of misery."

And again:

"The law does not say to a man, 'Work and I will reward you.' But it says to him, 'Work, and by stopping the hand that would take from you I will insure to you the fruits of your labor, which without me you could not preserve.'"

"If industry creates it is the law which preserves."

Bentham points in vivid words the picture of a state in which the security of man in the possession of his own property is again and again violated, each violation of course producing successive and more savage violations, until at last security vanishes.

"The time to guard against tyranny," says Jefferson, "is before it has got hold of us." The time to resist a tyranny that seeks to confiscate private property is before it has made even its smallest beginning.

The legislature of Nebraska naturally began its assault upon rights with the most unpopular persons in the state. But if it had been allowed to confiscate railroad property, the work of undermining security would have gone on and on, until the field of industry, as Bentham says, being beaten down by storms, would at last have become a desert.

Leedy's Latest.

The brutal coarseness of Governor Leedy's attack upon the supreme court of the United States would excite more surprise and deeper disgust if similar displays of Populist malice and folly had been less frequent in recent years. But this emission is more detestable because it is the work of a man who is so widely malignant than the most reckless of its disgraceful predecessors.

His excellency, of Kansas, has been hurried into a towering rage by the decision of the supreme court of the United States, which has declared the Nebraska maximum freight rate law to be the right of every citizen to approve or disapprove of the findings of any judicial tribunal from the lowest to the highest.

"The decision of the supreme court," says Leedy, "is a final decision, no one is to be allowed to say that it is right, or to refrain from thinking it is wrong and expressing an opinion to that effect. But it is the habit of good citizens to discuss decisions of the United States supreme court—the most eminent judicial tribunal on earth—to use decent language, and a departure from this rule is more reprehensible in the governor than it is in a person in private life."

"The opinion has been handed down, and the dispatch says that it is a clean victory for the people of the United States. It is an unclean victory in every aspect of the case, showing that, no matter how the robes of justice are worn, they are about the personnel of the supreme court, these robes can no longer conceal the blood of official malfeasance and usurpation."

Further on he speaks of the supreme court as corrupt and rotten, and declares that nobody but a slave and a knave will yield assent to the opinion.

The decision thus recklessly assailed was expected by all who had any knowledge of the law, with the possible exception of a few Populists. It does not give the right of a state to reduce excessive rates, but it does forbid a state to confiscate private property by compelling railroads to transport freight at less than the cost of the service. It is manifestly the right of a state to reduce excessive rates, but it does forbid a state to confiscate private property by compelling railroads to transport freight at less than the cost of the service. It is manifestly the right of a state to reduce excessive rates, but it does forbid a state to confiscate private property by compelling railroads to transport freight at less than the cost of the service.

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